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REMARKS

Claims 1-43 are pending in the application. Favorable reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

I. *ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER*

Applicants continue to acknowledge with appreciation the allowance of claims 1-36 and the indicated allowability of claim 43. Claim 43 will be in condition for allowance upon being amended to independent form.

II. *REQUEST FOR INTERVIEW*

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner contact the undersigned to arrange for a mutually convenient time to conduct a telephone interview prior to any further non-favorable Office Action. As discussed below, applicants believe there still may remain a fundamental misunderstanding regarding the rejected claims. Applicants are hopeful a further telephone interview with the Examiner will help facilitate prompt resolution of this reissue application.

III. *REJECTION OF CLAIMS 37-42 UNDER 35 USC §102(b)*

Claims 37-42 continue to be rejected under 35 USC §102(b) based on *Matsui (USP 5,661,707)*. This rejection is respectfully traversed for at least the following reasons.

Beginning on page 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner explains that "*Matsui* discloses a scrambling signal (S20) that is generated from a sequence generator that receives an initial value from memory. Therefore, the Examiner concludes that the scramble data of *Matsui* has a value that is randomly determined". Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner is in error in this regard.

More specifically, in *Matsui* the initial value memory 20 receives as an address the sector address signal S1. However, those having ordinary skill in the art will appreciate that the sector address signal does not represent a random value. The sector address signal identifies an address in the memory 20, thereby accessing the

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initial values stored in the memory 20 at the address represented by the sector address signal. Since the sector address signal is not a random value and therefore is not randomly determined, the particular initial values stored in the corresponding location in the memory 20 do not represent randomly determined values.

Accordingly, the applicants respectfully submit that the initial value output from the memory 20 in *Matsui* is *not* randomly determined as recited in the claims. Neither the sector address nor the initial values stored in the memory 20 at the address represented by the sector address is randomly determined.

In response to applicants' previous explanation that the initial value provided to the sequence generator in *Matsui* is determined based on the sector address (and therefore not randomly determined), the Examiner argues in the Office Action that the claims do not recite where the initial value comes from. Applicants respectfully believe that the Examiner may have missed the point of applicants' arguments in this regard. The claims do recite that the initial value is "randomly determined". The fact that the claims do not recite where the randomly determined initial value comes from is not particularly relevant at this time. The claims simply require that the initial value be randomly determined, and *Matsui* does not teach or suggest an initial value which has been randomly determined as claimed.

The Examiner also again goes on to state that the limitation of "generating a scramble data having a value that is randomly determined" cannot clearly (be) found in the specification. The Examiner points to column 27, lines 61-64 of the specification.

Applicants note that column 27, lines 8-65, of the present application describes both the case where the scramble data has a value which is *not* randomly determined, and the case where the scramble data has a value which *is* randomly determined. For example, lines 8-46 discuss a case where the initial value is determined based on the sector address (analogous to what is described in *Matsui*). On the other hand, lines 47-58, describe the case where a random number generator generates random numbers such that any of the plurality of data tables may be selected in accordance with the random numbers. Thus, the initial value itself is randomly determined.

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Accordingly, the section cited by the Examiner, namely column 27, lines 61-64, does not specifically address the case where the initial value itself is randomly determined as claimed. Furthermore, it appears the Examiner is overlooking the support provided in the specification at column 27, lines 29-33.

The Examiner goes on to somewhat "unofficially" reintroduce *Murakami et al.* in the Office Action. However, the Examiner refers to *Murakami et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,930,251* which is different from *Murakami et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,671,226* previously applied by the Examiner. Specifically, the Examiner refers to FIG. 14a of *Murakami et al. '251* as showing an initial value 72a input to a pseudo random number generator sequence 73a to provide "scramble data" to the logical circuit 75.

Applicants note, however, that the output of the pseudo random number generator 73a in *Murakami et al. '251* corresponds to the pseudo random number sequence recited in claim 37 of the present application, for example. The scramble data referred to in claim 37 corresponds to what is input into the pseudo random number generator in order to generate the pseudo random number sequence. Thus, the "scramble data" recited in claim 37 corresponds to the input 72a in *Murakami et al. Murakami et al.*, has not been shown to teach or suggest that the input 72a is randomly determined as recited in the present claims.

The Examiner goes on to refer to Fig. 17 of the present application as processing the initial value data similarly, therefore leading one to assume that the scramble data in *Murakami et al.*, is similarly randomly determined. Again, applicants point back to the fact that it has not been shown that *Murakami et al.*, teaches or suggest that the value 72a is randomly determined as recited in the claims.

In summary, applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner still has not shown how or where *Matsui* (or *Murakami et al.*) teach or suggest a randomly determined initial value as recited in the claims. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

IV.   CONCLUSION

Accordingly, all claims 1-43 are believed to be allowable and the application is believed to be in condition for allowance. A prompt action to such end is earnestly solicited.

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Should the Examiner feel that a telephone interview would be helpful to facilitate favorable prosecution of the above-identified application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

Should a petition for an extension of time be necessary for the timely reply to the outstanding Office Action (or if such a petition has been made and an additional extension is necessary), petition is hereby made and the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees (including additional claim fees) to Deposit Account No. 18-0988.

Respectfully submitted,

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